

**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_**

A RESOLUTION stating the City of Seattle's intent to assist the Friends of Little Saigon and other community members in the Little Saigon Neighborhood to explore the feasibility of a mixed-use project that would serve as a positive catalyst to preserve and enhance Little Saigon as a social, cultural, and economic hub.

WHEREAS, Little Saigon is a historic social, cultural and economic hub of the Vietnamese community in the Puget Sound Region and a great cultural asset to the City of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, Little Saigon is a vibrant small business district; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted Land Use Code amendments in 2011 that allow increased development in South Downtown, including Little Saigon; and

WHEREAS, in June 2007, the Department of Planning and Development funded an economic analysis of Little Saigon and Chinatown/International District to support the commercial districts in these communities and to help small businesses, especially those that are refugee- and immigrant-owned, to grow and prosper; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Planning and Development funded a Landscape and Urban Design Study of Little Saigon in February 2008; and

WHEREAS, in June 2012 the City acquired land in the Little Saigon community for a new park; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is reviewing proposed Land Use Code amendments that would allow increased development at Yesler Terrace; and

WHEREAS, the First Hill Streetcar is under construction and will begin travel on Jackson Street through Little Saigon beginning in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City's economy is improving and development is beginning to increase citywide; and

WHEREAS, these factors will likely result in the redevelopment, over time, of portions of the Little Saigon neighborhood and may cause an increase in land values and rents that creates pressure for displacement of existing businesses and community members; and

WHEREAS, the Little Saigon community has indicated an interest in pursuing the development of a mixed-use project potentially including low-income housing, affordable commercial space, and a Vietnamese cultural center that could act as a positive catalyst to preserve and enhance Little Saigon; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE  
MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

The City of Seattle, including the Office of Housing, the Office of Economic Development, and the Department of Planning and Development, and the Seattle Housing Authority, will work with the Friends of Little Saigon and other community members in Little Saigon to explore the feasibility of developing a mixed-use project that may include low-income housing, affordable commercial space, and a Vietnamese cultural center. This development will be a complicated project. The City expects the Friends of Little Saigon to obtain the assistance of an experienced real estate development organization with demonstrated success working with the Vietnamese community and business owners, in order to proceed with planning for a project. The City does not commit at this time to provide funding for this project. However, the City will assist the Friends of Little Saigon and other community members to identify and pursue potential funding from Federal, State and local sources (including public and private sources) that could finance a portion of the land acquisition and/or construction costs of this project. The Office of Housing, in cooperation with other appropriate City departments, shall provide a report to the City Council when the feasibility work regarding the mixed-use project is completed.

1           Adopted by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012, and  
2 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
3 of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

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5 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council  
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7 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:  
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10 Michael McGinn, Mayor  
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12           Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.  
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15 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk  
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